



Federal Emergency Management Agency

John Pennington: Regional Director, Region 10

President Bush appointed John Pennington Regional Director in December 2001. As Regional Director, Mr. Pennington is responsible for coordinating FEMA mitigation, preparedness and disaster response and recovery activities in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. He has overseen response and recovery operations for three Presidentially declared disasters and been an active participant in the reorganization of FEMA's Office of National Preparedness/Homeland Security.

Prior to joining FEMA, Mr. Pennington served four terms of elected office in the Washington State House of Representatives (18th Legislative District). He served as Speaker Pro Tempore for five years, and enjoyed the distinction of being the youngest House Speaker Pro Tem (and third longest-serving) ever elected in Washington state. During his tenure, he authored more than 30 bills that became law, including property tax limits on senior citizens, a ban on the controversial fuel additive MTBE, and establishment of the nation's first and only regional endangered species recovery entity — the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board.

Before his successful run for office in 1994, Mr. Pennington and his wife, Valerie Ann, owned and operated the Timber Town Coffee Company in southwest Washington.

Born and raised in Nashville, Tennessee, Mr. Pennington earned a bachelor of science degree in business and resides near Mount St. Helens, Washington.

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